

In Memoriam

The Memorial Chamber
Houses of Parliament
OTTAWA

La Chapelle du Souvenir
Chambres du Parlement
CANADA

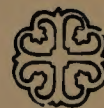
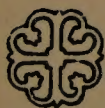
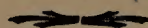


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CANADIAN HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT
HOTEL DU PARLEMENT DU CANADA



MÉCANISME
DE L'HORLOGE
~CLOCK MECHANISM

CABINET DU
CARILLONNEUR
~CARILLON KEYBOARD ROOM

SÉRIE SUPÉRIEURE DE
47 CLOCHES
~UPPER FRAME OF 47 BELLS

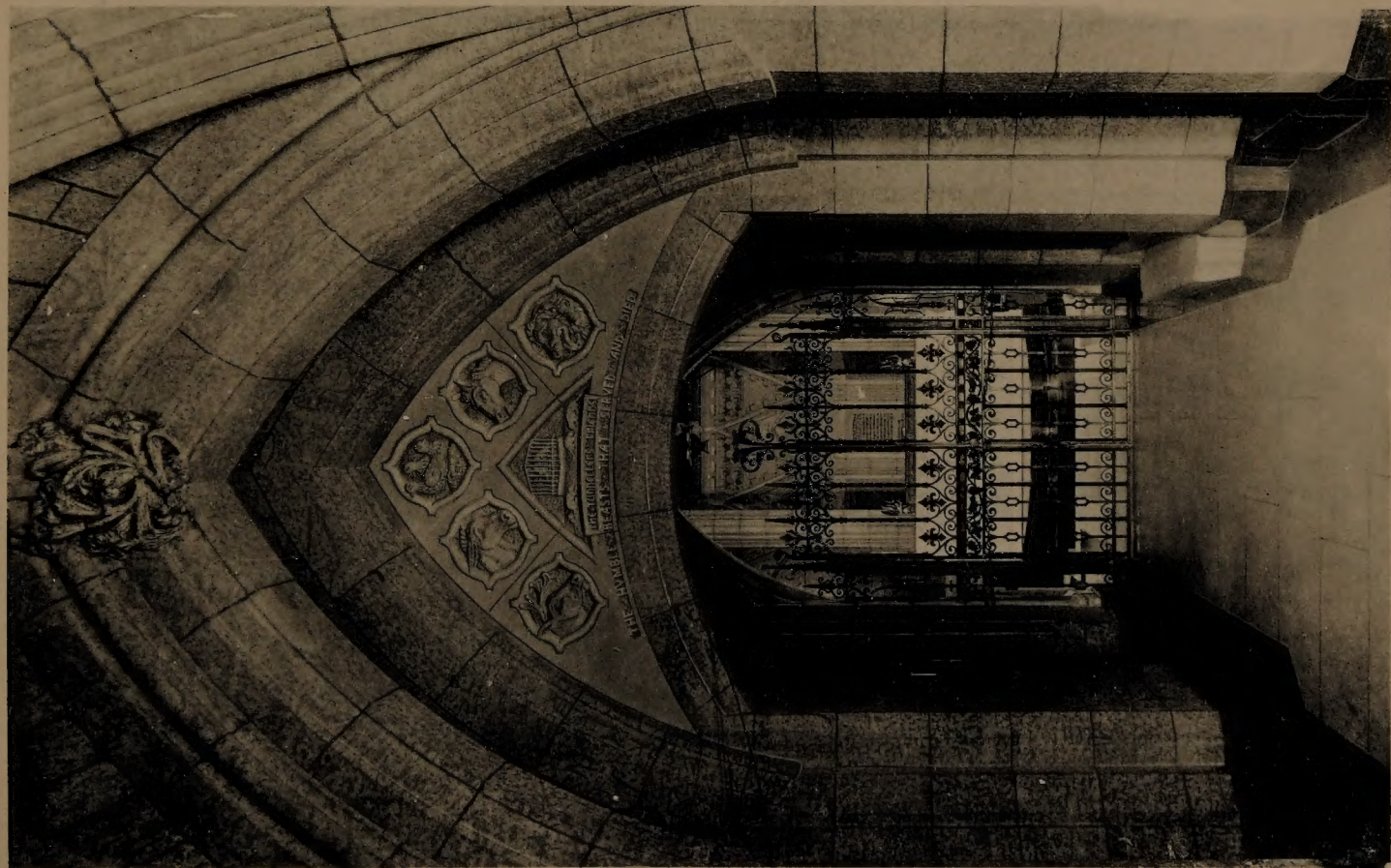
SÉRIE INFÉRIEURE DES
6 PLUS GROSSES CLOCHES
~LOWER FRAME OF 6 LARGEST BELLS

CHAPELLE DU SOUVENIR
~MEMORIAL CHAMBER.

PEACE TOWER SHOWING POSITION OF BELLS AND MEMORIAL CHAMBER
TOUR DE LA PAIX MONTRANT LA POSITION DES CLOCHES ET DE LA CHAPELLE DU SOUVENIR



GATES TO PEACE TOWER
GRILLE DE LA TOUR DE LA PAIX



GATES TO MEMORIAL CHAMBER
GRILLE DE LA CHAPELLE DU SOUVENIR

EXPLANATION OF THE HISTORICAL CARVING IN THE MEMORIAL CHAMBER, PEACE TOWER, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, OTTAWA.

This is the heart of Canada; here is embodied in stone the spirit of the people.

This Chamber is a memorial to the service, sacrifice and achievements of Canadians in the Great War; each one who served is represented by the badge he wore while serving in the armed forces.

Excepting the band of grey Canadian marble binding the flooring with the entrance passage, the stone used in the construction was quarried in the countries of the original Allies: France, Belgium and Britain. The walls and ceiling are of Chateau Gaillard stone, presented by the people of France, who also gave the marble for the columns; the floor is of stone from the areas in which Canadians fought; their principal battles are named on inlaid plates of brass; the black marble of the border and the altar steps is the gift of the people of Belgium; the altar stone, ornamented with the Royal Arms, the Arms of Canada and of the Provinces, is the gift of Great Britain. Enshrined in this Altar will rest the Book of Remembrance, in which are being recorded the names of 60,000 Canadians who made the supreme sacrifice.

The story of the Canadians in the Great War is inscribed on marble panels set in the walls; in the carving, scenes and devices are grouped to illustrate that story and to link up the present with the past.

The record begins in the diaper background, with the Couronne Royale of Louis and the three fleur de lys of France; then designs from the flags of the French regiments which served in Canada prior to 1760; these are followed, on the other walls, by devices borne by British regiments which served on this continent, and Colonial regiments, a number of these were disbanded in Canada, represented by her own device, three Maple Leaves conjoined on one stem; closing the series is the British Crown. In the label, framing the design, appear the badges of the pre-war Canadian Militia.

On the first panel is told in words the story of the early days of the Great War; of Canada's offer to help, and of the raising, the despatch and the crossing of the First Contingent to England in October 1914. On the pictorial panel is the convoy at sea, guarded by British battleships. The central shield bears the arms of Plymouth, where the first troops landed. Grouped about the shield are the Maple Leaf badge and the badges of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, Canadian Expeditionary Force, the first of the fighting battalions of the Canadian Corps, all of which follow in proper order, by brigades and divisions. In the fighting battalions were more than half of those who served in France; and out of every five Canadians who fell, four were wearing these very badges. In the spandrels are shown, on a suitable background, medals and decorations awarded to Canadians by the British and allied Governments, beginning with the V.C. on a spray of oak, and, on a palm-branch, the D.S.O. The shields on the impostes represent the Artillery and the Navy, beginning the series of arms and services.

The rosettes above carry the badges of other units which served in the field, beginning with the regiments of the Canadian Cavalry Brigade. The crockets are battalions of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, which for the most part, went to England, but were all broken up to reinforce the units in the field.

Similarly the second panel tells of the first Canadian fighting in 1915 at Ypres, whose coat of arms is on the shield; the pictorial panel shows the main square, the Cloth Hall and the ramparts, beyond which lie the Gravenstafel Ridge and St. Julien, where one of the Canadian memorials now stands, to mark the battlefield.

The third panel shows a field gun manhandled into the front line to break down the enemy's defences before the infantry attacked at Givenchy.

The fourth panel, in the central niche of the wall, relates to the window above, The Call to Arms; the shield bears the arms of Belgium, on whose behalf the call was made. A battalion is moving into the line; army transport is assisting refugees to escape from the bombardment of their village.

The fifth panel shows a working party going forward to repair trenches. In the middle distance are the St. Eloi Craters, on the sky-line at the left is Mount Sorrel.

In the sixth panel is shown the figure of the Virgin and Child of the Basilica at Albert, high above the smoke of battle, and overhanging the road along which Canadians passed when going into action at the Somme in 1916. On the right, an aeroplane.

In the seventh panel is Vimy Ridge, captured by the Canadian Corps on 9th April, 1917, and since given by France to Canada. In the foreground the familiar towers of Mont St. Eloy; the smoke of bursting shells marks the crest of the ridge, where the chief Canadian battlefields memorial is being erected.

In the eighth panel is shown the infantry in the battle of Passchendaele at the moment of attack. A machine gun on the left gives covering fire.

The ninth panel, in the centre of the wall, relates to the window above: The Assembly of Remembrance. The Army Medical Corps caring for the wounded; a nursing sister receiving a stretcher case from the ambulance car; the hospital train on the left, ready to take cases to the base for shipment to England. The shield carries the Union, the symbol of Great Britain.

The tenth panel shows tanks and cavalry advancing to take part in the successful attack of the Canadian Corps at Amiens, on 8th August, 1918, where the Canadian Cavalry had already fought four months previously.

In the eleventh panel a heavy howitzer near the Baudimont Gate of Arras is bombarding the enemy's defences astride the Arras-Cambrai road, to prepare the way for the Canadian attack.

The twelfth panel shows infantry going forward across a temporary bridge, built over the Canal du Nord by the Canadian Engineers during the battle, in September 1918.

The thirteenth panel shows victorious Canadians marching past their commander in front of the town hall of Mons on Armistice Day, 11th November, 1918.

The fourteenth panel relates to the window above: The Dawn of Peace. A Canadian battalion marching across the Rhine by the bridge at Bonn. Under the Armistice, the Allies were to cross the Rhine; then peace would be discussed. The Arms of France are in the shield above.

In the fifteenth panel is shown an incident in North West Russia: a Canadian battery on the march in a snow-storm.

In the sixteenth panel is a party of the Canadian Forestry Corps, receiving news of the Armistice.

The final panel shows the transports bearing the troops back from France to Canada; a comrade takes a long farewell.

On the crockets over the doorway are the arms of cities of Canada, the doors through which men passed on entering and leaving the Army. In the tympanum is the Recording Angel; the finial group represents Motherhood.

"ALL'S WELL FOR OVER THERE AMONG HIS PEERS A HAPPY WARRIOR SLEEPS."



MEMORIAL CHAMBER, INTERIOR LOOKING WEST
INTERIEUR DE LA CHAPELLE DU SOUVENIR, COTE OUEST

EXPLICATION DES SCULPTURES DE LA CHAPELLE DU SOUVENIR, TOUR DE LA PAIX, HOTEL DU PARLEMENT, OTTAWA.

C'est ici le cœur du Canada et l'âme même de notre peuple est burinée dans ces pierres.

Cette chapelle nous remémore le dévouement, les sacrifices et les faits d'armes des Canadiens durant la Grande Guerre; chacun de ceux qui ont fait leur part est ici représenté par l'écusson qu'il portait lorsqu'il faisait partie de nos armées.

Exception faite de la bande de marbre gris du Canada, qui relie le dallage intérieur au passage d'entrée, la pierre utilisée dans la construction de cette chapelle vient des carrières des pays qui faisaient partie du premier groupe des Alliés: la France, la Belgique et l'Angleterre. Le revêtement des murs et du plafond est fait de pierre de Château Gaillard, offerte par le peuple français qui fit aussi don du marbre qui entre dans les colonnes; les dalles sont faites de pierre provenant des régions où les Canadiens ont combattu; les principales batailles que nos soldats ont livrées sont énumérées sur des plaques de cuivre incrustées dans les dalles; le marbre noir de la bordure et des degrés de l'autel a été donné par la nation belge; la pierre de l'autel, ornée des armoiries royales britanniques, des armoiries du Canada et des armes des provinces, est un don de la Grande-Bretagne. Dans la châsse pratiquée au centre de l'autel on placera le Livre du Souvenir dans lequel on est à inscrire les noms des 60,000 Canadiens qui ont fait le sacrifice suprême.

Sur les panneaux de marbre qui ornent les murs, les inscriptions racontent la part prise par les Canadiens dans la Grande Guerre. Les sculptures reproduisent des scènes et des devises groupées de manière à illustrer cette histoire qui relie le présent au passé.

Cet historique commence sur le fond diapré où l'on voit la couronne royale de Louis et les trois fleurs de lys de la France; viennent ensuite des dessins empruntés aux drapeaux des régiments français qui ont servi au Canada avant l'année 1760; puis, sur les autres murs, les emblèmes qui distinguaient les régiments britanniques qui ont fait du service sur ce continent et les régiments coloniaux dont un certain nombre ont été dispersés au Canada. Le Canada lui-même y est représenté par ses propres meubles, trois feuilles d'érable tigées. A la fin de cette série se trouve a couronne britannique. Sur la bande qui encadre le dessin on voit les écussons de la milice canadienne d'avant-guerre.

Sur le premier panneau, l'inscription fait l'historique des premiers jours de la Grande Guerre; on y rappelle l'offre du Canada de venir en aide, le recrutement, le transport et la traversée du premier contingent en Angleterre au mois d'octobre 1914. Le bas-relief qui sert à illustrer ce récit représente les transports sur mer, escortés des navires de guerre britanniques. L'écu du centre porte les armes de Plymouth où débarquèrent nos premières troupes. Autour de cet écu se trouvent groupés l'écusson en feuille d'érable et ceux des 1er et 2ème bataillons des troupes expéditionnaires canadiennes, les premiers des bataillons combattants du corps d'armée canadien, qui se succèdent tous dans un ordre régulier, par brigades et par divisions. Les bataillons d'infanterie comprenaient plus de la moitié des canadiens qui ont fait du service en France et, de tous ceux qui sont tombés au champ d'honneur, quatre sur cinq portaient précisément ces écussons. Dans les naissances sont représentées, sur un fond approprié, les médailles et les décorations accordées aux Canadiens par le Gouvernement britannique et les Gouvernements alliés. On y voit d'abord la Victoria Cross sur une brindille de chêne et le D.S.O. sur une palme. Les écus sur les impostes représentent l'Artillerie et la Marine qui commencent la série des armes et des services.

Au-dessus, les rosaces portent les écussons des autres unités qui ont fait la campagne, en commençant par les régiments de la brigade de cavalerie canadienne. Les crochets représentent les bataillons des troupes expéditionnaires du Canada qui, pour la plupart, se sont rendus en Angleterre, où ils furent dispersés pour servir de renforts aux unités de combat:

Le deuxième panneau nous rappelle le premier engagement des Canadiens à Ypres en 1915. Les armes de la ville apparaissent sur l'écu. On voit la grande place, les Halles et les remparts; en arrière, la crête de Gravenstafel et Saint-Julien, où l'on a érigé l'un des monuments commémoratifs canadiens qui marquent l'emplacement des champs de bataille.

On aperçoit sur le troisième panneau une pièce de campagne que les canonniers ont trainée à force de bras jusqu'à la ligne de feu pour briser les défenses ennemies avant l'attaque de l'infanterie à Givenchy.

Le quatrième panneau, qui est au centre du mur, se rapporte au vitrail qui se trouve au-dessus: L'Appel aux Armes. L'écu porte les armes de la Belgique au nom de laquelle l'appel a été fait. Un bataillon s'en va au feu; un fourgon de l'armée aide aux habitants à s'enfuir devant le bombardement de leur village.

Le cinquième panneau nous fait voir un groupe de corvée s'en allant réparer les tranchées. Au milieu, les cratères de Saint-Eloi, et à gauche, à l'horizon, le Mont Sorrel.

Sur le sixième panneau on aperçoit la Vierge et l'Enfant de la Basilique d'Albert. La statue est penchée sur la route suivie par les Canadiens allant livrer la bataille de la Somme en 1916. Elle semble, comme l'avion à droite, flotter au-dessus de la fumée du combat.

On voit sur le septième panneau la crête de Vimy prise par les Canadiens, le 9 avril 1917, et depuis gracieusement cédée au Canada par la France; au premier plan, les tours familières de Mont Saint-Eloi. La fumée des obus indique le sommet de la crête où s'élève le principal monument commémoratif des champs de bataille canadiens.

Le huitième panneau représente l'infanterie pendant la bataille de Passchendaele au moment de l'assaut. A gauche, une mitrailleuse fournit un tir de barrage.

Le neuvième panneau, au centre du mur, se rapporte au vitrail au-dessus: L'Assemblée du Souvenir. Le corps médical de l'armée soigne les blessés; une infirmière reçoit un blessé que l'on descend de l'ambulance sur un brancard. A gauche, le train-hôpital, prêt à transporter vers la base les blessés que l'on envoie ensuite en Angleterre. L'écu porte en chargeure l'Union, symbole de la Grande-Bretagne.

Le dixième panneau nous montre des chars d'assaut et la cavalerie qui vont prendre part à l'heureuse attaque des Canadiens, le 8 août 1918, à Amiens, où la cavalerie canadienne, quatre mois auparavant, avait contribué à arrêter l'avance de l'ennemi.

Sur le onzième panneau on aperçoit un gros obusier, près de la porte Baudimont à Arras, bombardant les défenses ennemies de la route de Cambrai pour préparer l'attaque canadienne.

Sur le douzième panneau on voit l'infanterie qui s'avance sur un pont temporaire, jeté sur le Canal du Nord par les troupes du génie canadien pendant la bataille de septembre 1918.

Le treizième panneau nous montre les Canadiens victorieux passés en revue par leur commandant en face de l'hôtel-de-ville de Mons, le jour de l'Armistice, le 11 novembre 1918.

Le quatorzième panneau se rapporte au vitrail qui se trouve au-dessus: L'Aurore de la Paix. Un bataillon canadien franchit le Rhin par le pont de Bonn. En conformité avec l'armistice, les Alliés devaient d'abord traverser le Rhin avant de discuter la paix. L'écu, que l'on voit au-dessus, porte les armes de la France.

Le quinzième panneau représente un incident dans le nord-ouest de la Russie: Une batterie canadienne en marche au milieu d'une tempête de neige.

Sur le seizième panneau on aperçoit un détachement du corps forestier canadien recevant la nouvelle de l'Armistice.

Le dernier panneau montre les transports ramenant les troupes de France au Canada et les derniers adieux d'un militaire à ses camarades tombés.

Sur les crochets au-dessus de la sortie se trouvent les armes des villes canadiennes symbolisant les portes par lesquelles les hommes passèrent en s'enrôlant et en quittant l'armée. Le tympan porte en relief l'ange préposé au Livre d'or. Sur le pinacle, dominant le portail, se dresse une figure symbolique de la Maternité.

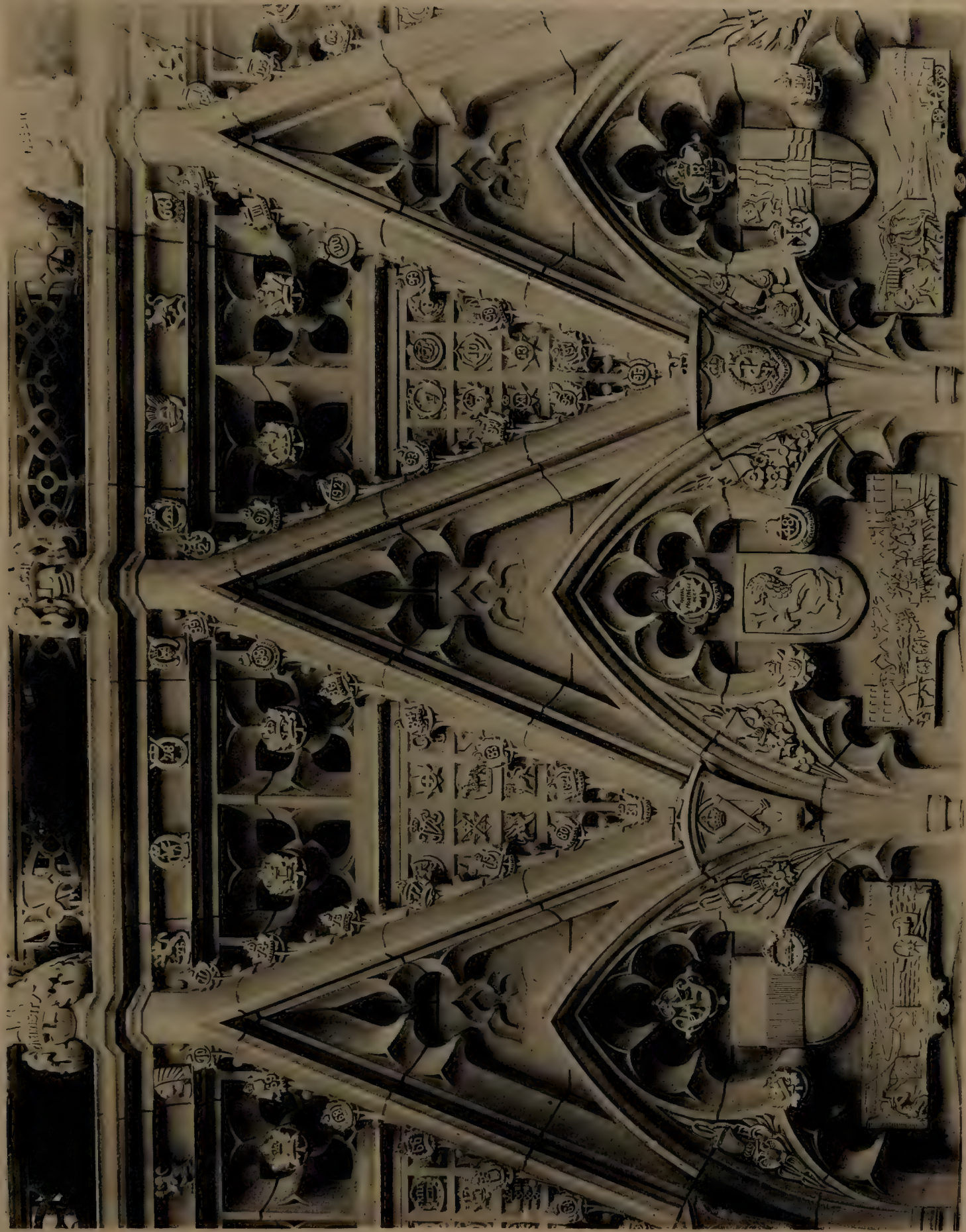
"TOUT VA BIEN, CAR LA-BAS, ENTOURE DE SES COMPAGNONS D'ARMES, UN GUERRIER
REPOSE EN PAIX."



THE ALTAR ON WHICH THE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE WILL BE PLACED; VIEW LOOKING SOUTH
L'AUTEL SUR LEQUEL LE LIVRE DU SOUVENIR SERA DEPOSE



VUE OF ENTRANCE LOOKING NORTH
FACADE DE LA GRILLE D'ENTREE.



SAMPLE OF THE SCULPTURAL WORK ABOVE THE INSCRIBED PANELS
MOTIF DE SCULPTURE AU-DESSUS DES INSCRIPTIONS AUTOUR DE LA CHAPELLE DU SOUVENIR



CEILING OF THE MEMORIAL CHAMBER
PLAFOND DE LA CHAPELLE DU SOUVENIR



GOD

the Creator and Preserver

of all mankind, Ruler of the World,

Who has entrusted to the Governments

of Our Commonwealth the care of many

peoples in distant lands, grant we beseech Thee that the members of our wide-spread Empire may ever be bound together in mutual love and unity under our Sovereign Lord The King.

Give to those who have the responsibility of government and administration, wisdom, patience and courage, and grant we humbly pray Thee that at this time the guidance of Thy Holy Spirit may be with them in their deliberations so that all that is now said and done shall be for the good of Our Nations, the welfare of mankind and the spread of Thy Kingdom throughout The World.

AMEN

THIS IS THE PRAYER OFFERED BY THE RT. HON. STANLEY BALDWIN ON THE OCCASION OF THE SPECIAL CEREMONY IN THE MEMORIAL CHAMBER OF THE PEACE TOWER PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE, OTTAWA 1932

THE NATIONS OF OUR COMMONWEALTH WERE REPRESENTED BY:-

THE RT. HON. STANLEY BALDWIN — UNITED KINGDOM
THE RT. HON. R. B. BENNETT — CANADA
THE RT. HON. STANLEY M. BRUCE — AUSTRALIA
THE RT. HON. J. G. COATES — NEW ZEALAND
THE HON. H. W. MOFFAT

THE HON. N. C. HAVENGA — SOUTH AFRICA
MR. SEAN T. O'KELLY — IRISH FREE STATE
THE HON. L. E. EMERSON — NEWFOUNDLAND
SIR ATUL C. CHATTERJEE — INDIA
SOUTHERN RHODESIA

THE STORY OF CANADA IN THE GREAT WAR

READ HOW FREE MEN THROUGHOUT THIS LAND KEPT FAITH IN THE HOUR OF TRIAL AND IN THE DAY OF BATTLE REMEMBERING THE TRADITIONS THEY HAD BEEN TAUGHT COUNTING LIFE NOTHING WITHOUT LIBERTY.

THE CALL

On 1st August 1914 Canada offered to send one Division in the event of war; Britain accepted. The Government called for 20,000 volunteers; within a month 40,000 were encamped at VALCARTIER. The permanent force of 3,000 was brought up to war strength; R.C.R. relieved 2nd LinCs. at Bermuda; Militia detachments were called out for home defence. Those gathered at Valcartier representing over 200 Militia Corps were assigned to 59 overseas units an Infantry Division Cavalry Horse Arty Lines of Communication units and first reinforcement. Others raised were P.P.C.I. and an Automobile Machine Gun Brigade Drilled by their own officers with equipment and clothing hurriedly made in Canada, the troops embarked at QUEBEC

THE CROSSING

On 3rd October 30,621 men in 30 ships left the rendezvous in GASPE BAY with a British naval escort. After 11 days the Contingent reached PLYMOUTH then moved to camps upon SALISBURY PLAIN there to train for 16 weeks. Stores clothing and equipment were completed or replaced and after being reviewed by the King the FIRST DIVISION was ready to join the British Expeditionary Force. Meanwhile a second division was mustering in Canada

YPRES 1915

The 1st Cdn. Div. 18,500 strong embarked at AVONMOUTH between 7th and 12th Feb by the 15th all had landed at ST. NAZAIRE While the Div. lay East of HAZEBROUCK detachments were schooled in the ways of the trenches near ARMENTIERES. The line at FLEURBAIX was occupied on 3rd March After three weeks the Div. moved back to about ESTAIRES, and thence to OXELAERE and WATOU, prior to extending the front 4400 yards on 17th April, by relieving the French in the N.E. face of the YPRES salient from GRAVENSTAFEL to N. of KEERSELAERE

THE GAS ATTACK

On the afternoon of 22nd April the Germans released dense clouds of chlorine to the left of the Canadian line and attacked A wide breach four miles deep was opened but Cdn. counter attacks from the exposed flank prevented the turning of the British line by this new weapon.

ST. JULIEN

At dawn on 24th April, following a second discharge of asphyxiating gas on the Canadian front, convergent assaults were delivered from POELCAPPELLE and LANGEMARCK. These flattened the salient in three days but the line still held. British reinforcements made it secure. The Div. was relieved May 4th when this battle ended

FREZENBERG RIDGE

The P.P.C.I. in the 27th British Div. near BELLEWAARDE withstood renewed attacks on 8th May; the Canadian Artillery which remained until the 14th also took part.

Canadian losses 6104, of whom 1988 killed

BATTLE OF FESTUBERT

While billeted south of STEENWERCK and BAILLEUL the Div. received drafts and was joined by a dismounted detachment of the Cdn. Cav. Bde. 1500 strong before entering the battle on 18th May N.E. of BETHUNE, where on the 15th the British had launched an offensive against the German positions covering the AUBERS ridge. Assaults were delivered on the 20th 22nd 24th & 25th May. In advancing the line 600 yards on a front of 2500 yards, Canadian casualties were 2,204.

ACTION OF GIVENCHY

Taking ground to the right on 1st June the Div. attacked on the 15th; field guns were pushed close up behind the parapets but artillery ammunition failed, and the dense wire entanglements denied success Casualties were 1,005. Ten days later the Div. now augmented by the 1st Canadian Motor Machine Gun Brigade from England was withdrawn from line, and on 28th June took over trenches in the low lying valley of the DOLIVE between PLOEGSTEERT WOOD and WULVERGHEM opposite MESSINES

Most units were now under strength; until May 1915 there was no regular way of supplying reinforcements from Canada; thereafter full battalions recruited for service in France were perforce depleted in England, and became reserve formations maintaining the base Depot at le HAVRE at a strength of about 4,000; many unfired officers resigned their commissions to go to the front, where promotion was now made from the ranks. By the end of August Cdn. troops in France numbered 23,431 in England 57,206; in Canada 62,362.

THE CANADIAN CORPS

The Canadian Army Corps, formed in France 13th Sept. 1915, was immediately joined by the 2nd Cdn. Div. which had assembled and trained in England; and on 24th Dec. by the 3rd Canadian Division fashioned from units already in the field On 26th Jan. 1916, the Cavalry and R.C.H.A. again became a Cavalry Brigade, and served as a part of the British Cavalry Corps until the end. Throughout the winter the Cdn. Corps, with HQ. at BAILLEUL held from PLOEGSTEERT, by WULVERGHEM, to KEMMEL

ST. ELOI CRATERS

A new frontage to the North, between ST. ELOI and the YPRES-MENIN road, was taken over on 4th April. In the next 12 days the 2nd Cdn. Div. lost 1,292 men, battling in the mire for the craters of mines, lately blown by the British in a vain attempt to improve that dreadful section of the line

MOUNT SORREL

The 3rd Cdn. Div. holding the point of the YPRES salient at HOOGE, and 3,850 yds S. was suddenly bombarded and attacked on 2nd June, lost OBSERVATORY RIDGE and part of SANCTUARY WOOD, but held MAPLE COPSE and ARMAGH WOOD. Counter-attacks made no progress, until, covered by intense artillery fire, the 1st Canadian Division restored the situation on the 13th June Casualties were 9,624. Troops of all three Divisions were engaged; they held the line between HOOGE and ST. ELOI until August then moved back to training areas about EPERLECOQUES, TILOUES and STEENVOORDE On 14th Aug. the 4th Cdn. Div. arrived from England, and eleven days later went into the front line in the YPRES salient.

THEY ARE TOO NEAR
TO BE GREAT
BUT OUR CHILDREN
SHALL UNDERSTAND
WHEN AND HOW OUR
FATE WAS CHANGED
AND BY WHOSE HAND

NOR WAS THERE ANY
BRIEF OR ONCE ONLY
IMPOSED ON THEM THE
WOUNDED THEY SPENT
THE SICK RECEIVED NO
EXEMPTION BEING CURED
THEY RETURNED AND
ENDURED AND ACHIEVED
OUR REDEMPTION

NOT SINCE HER BIRTH
HAS OUR FATE BEEN
SWORN WITH THE COMED
WE ON HERE

AUX MORTS
POUR LA PATRIE
CEUX QUI PIEUSEMENT
SONT MORTS POUR
LA PATRIE
ONT DROIT QU'À LEUR
CERCUEIL LA FOUILLE
VIENNE ET PRIE
ENTRE LES PLUS BEAUX
NOMS LEUR NOM EST
LE PLUS BEAU
TOUTE GLOIRE PRÈS
DEUX PASSE ET
TOMBE ÉPHÉMÈRE
ET COMME
FERAIT UNE MÈRE
LA VOIX D'UNE FEMME
ENTIERE LES BERCEMENT
LEUR TOMBEAU

THE SOMME 1916

The Allied offensive astride the Somme began on 1st July. Cdn. Cav. and Arty were at BAZENTIN and GUILLEMONT: troops of the 1st Cdn. Div. were engaged in the struggle at POZIERES N. of ALBERT, on 31st Aug. Three days later the Cdn. Corps occupied 4,100 yards E. and W. of the BAPAUME road.

FLERS-COURCELETTE

Tanks were first used on 15th Sept. when the 2nd and 3rd Cdn. Divs. advanced down the slope, stormed SUGAR trench and FABLECK GRABEN, and took COURCELETTE MOUQUET FARM fell on 17th and further gains were made on 20th & 22nd September.

THIEPVAL

The 1st and 2nd Cdn. Divs. attacking on the right of other British divisions, on 26th Sept. secured ZOLLERN, HESSIAN and KENORA trenches; in the next three days the line pressed forward 800 yards.

ANCRE HEIGHTS

Again on 1st Oct. the 2nd and 3rd Cdn. Divs. attacked REGINA trench; and again a week later the 1st and 3rd. The Cdn. Corps with the 1st 2nd and 3rd Cdn. Divs. marched to the VIMY front on 17th Oct. the Cdn. Arty remained. Meanwhile the 4th Cdn. Div. had moved to the SOMME, and by 11th Nov. in three attacks advanced 500 yards.

THE ANCRE

In the final assault on 18th November, the 4th Cdn. Div. captured DESIRE trench.

By 28th Nov. all Cdn. units had been released from this region. In gaining 4,000 yds. on a front of 3,000 losses were 24,029.

VIMY RIDGE

During the winter 1916-1917, the Corps reorganized while holding from ECURIE to BULLY GRENAU, an Overseas Ministry and a Headquarters were established in London: in Canada factories poured out munitions of war, but voluntary recruiting declined.

Early in Jan. elaborate preparations for the Allied offensive, N. and S. of ARRAS were begun. On 27th March, the artillery bombardment opened; it increased gradually until 9th April when, with the four Divs. in concert and in line on 7,500 yards of front, ECURIE-SOUCHEZ, the Cdn. Corps 100,000 strong, crashed through the German lines, swept over VIMY RIDGE, took the guns in FARBUS and GOULOT WOODS, and covered the southern attack by making THELUS village and LA FOLIE FARM secure WILLERVAL and GIVENCHY were taken on 13th April, ARLEUX on 25th; the line then ran across the DOUAL plain, for 5,000 yards from near OPPY to BOIS DE L'HIRONDELLE. Canadian casualties in April were 13,477.

THE SCARPE

The 1st Cdn. Div. stormed FRESNOY on 3rd May, while the 2nd advanced towards ACHEVILLE. The 4th pressed on south of the SOUCHEZ, in June, and took AVION.

HILL 70

On 4th July, the Corps took ground to the North opposite LENS, and, on the 16th further left, to the LOOS sector; the right was at MERICOURT. On 15th August the 1st, 2nd and 4th Cdn. Divs. attacking under a barrage, drove the enemy from HILL 70; for ten days the battle raged and more ground was made towards LENS. Casualties for July and Aug. were 10,746.

PASSCHENDAELE

The Cdn. Corps moved to FLANDERS on 12th Oct. to continue the British offensive launched early in June to free the Belgian coast and divert pressure from the French. The trenches opposite YPRES now ran from BROODSEINDE to POELCAPPELLE, across bare clayey ridges and marshy hollows; rain and bombardment had distorted the countryside into an evil waste of muddy pools where movement was inconceivably difficult. On 22nd Oct. the 3rd and 4th Cdn. Divs. occupied 2800 yds. in the centre; the objective was the PASSCHENDAELE RIDGE; four days later they attacked and captured BELLEVUE SPUR, on the 30th a fresh assault reduced CREST FARM and MEETCHELE SPUR. The 1st and 2nd Cdn. Divs. relieved on 4th and 5th Nov.; they attacked on the 6th and took the GOUDBERG SPUR, MOSSELMARKT, and PASSCHENDAELE, and the main ridge was won on the 10th a further short advance was made. In the following week the Corps returned to the LENS sector; having gained two square miles at a cost of 16,404 casualties.

CAMBRAI 1917

The Cdn. Cav. Bde. in the THIRD Brit. Army fought near MASNIERES on the 20th Nov. and covered the withdrawal ten days later.

In the winter 1917-18, the Cdn. Corps held 8 miles along the VIMY front; new defence works were constructed: the Machine Guns, the Engineers, the Railway and the Forestry services were increased; the 5th Cdn. Div. in England was drafted to maintain units in the field; in Canada, the exhaustion of volunteers induced compulsory service. On 31st Dec. strengths were 68,303 in Canada, 106,838 in England; in France, 143,002.

HOUCOURT

THEY WERE THE FIRST
THROW IN THE FORTS
YOURSE TO HOLD THE
MAY BE THE FIRST
WIFE WAS THE FIRST
STAY IN THE FIRST
BETWEEN THE FIRST
IN THE FIRST

WHEREFORE

THEY WERE THE FIRST
COMPARISON OF THE
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AMIENS

On 21st March, the German offensive began between the OISE and the SENSE. The Cdn. Cav. Bde. fought rearguard actions N. of the OISE by attacking near MOREUIL and HOURS. On 30th Mar. and 1st Apr. they checked the advance. The 1st Cdn. Motor M.G. Bde. on 23rd Mar. was sent to the SOMME and for 12 days harassed and hindered the pressing enemy. On 24th the Cdn. Corps was ordered to extend; by 13th April the four Cdn. Divs. held 20 miles S. from LENS; on 7th May the Corps came into reserve near ST. POL. The 2nd Cdn. Div. remaining in line, was replaced by the 3rd after eight weeks; on 15th July the Corps again took over the ARRAS front. Now the repeated German blows were all but spent; the Allied counter-stroke was ready. The Cdn. Corps, relieved 30th July, moved with secrecy and speed to AMIENS, and deployed for battle on a five mile front, between HOURS and VILLERS-BRETONNELIX.

In the misty dawn of 8th August under a sudden and violent bombardment, the Corps with the 3rd, 1st and 2nd Cdn. Divs. abreast, broke through the astonished enemy; the Cdn. Motor M.G. Bdes. covered the right until the 4th Cdn. Div. continued on to LE QUESNEL, aeroplanes, tanks and cavalry aided in the victorious advance. By midnight the line had progressed eight miles; next day the attack gained five miles, and on the 10th reached DAMERY-CHILLY; during the next week, the four divisions pushed further through the maze of old trenches where the enemy reorganized. Fifteen German divs. were engaged, 67 square miles recovered, 9311 prisoners and 201 guns captured; Cdn. casualties were 11,725. On the 22nd the Corps moved north to strike again from ARRAS.

ARRAS 1918

The Cdn. Corps prepared to attack on a 5 mile front, astride the ARRAS-CAMBRAI road, against a series of ridges, rivers and canals, natural and strongly fortified defences, the pivot of the German armies to the South, and the safeguard of the North. Assaulting early on 26th August the 2nd Cdn. Div. took GUENAPPE and VANCOURT TOWER, the 3rd captured MONCHY le PREUX; further advances were made next day; on the 28th the FRESNES-ROUVROY lines were pierced, the SENSE crossed, and BOIRY taken. Prisoners were 3614, casualties 6836. The line had advanced 6 miles. The 1st and 4th Cdn. Divs. then took up the fight; by 1st Sept. they had seized UPTON WOOD, OCEAN WOOD and the CROW'S NEST, and so made good the ground necessary for the next phase. Meanwhile, for three days, the heavy artillery cut lanes in the broad belts of wire covering the main position.

DROCOURT-QUEANT

On 2nd Sept. the 1st and 4th Cdn. Divs. advanced at dawn, overwhelmed the crowded defenders, and seized DUURY and the ridge to the South; on the right CAGNICOURT, VILLERS lez CAGNICOURT, and the woods above BUISSY were secured. In the night the enemy retired; on the 3rd the Cdn. line now 10 miles long, was established West of the CANAL DU NORD and along the South bank of the SCARPE. Casualties were 7218 6845 prisoners and 81 guns were taken. By this penetration of 9,000 yards into the famous HINDENBURG defence system the Germans far to the South were outflanked and compelled to fall back and reorganize.

The Cdn. Corps paused, rested, refitted and made ready to resume the fight.

CANAL DU NORD

The combined strategic design, to cut the enemy's lateral communications and dislocate his forces, now took effect, while the Canadian Corps perfected its intricate plans, the engineers prepared ways across the devastated area.

On 27th Sept. the Corps having taken over a front of 6,000 yards southwards from the ARRAS-CAMBRAI road, the 4th and 1st Cdn. Divs. attacked above MOEUVRES on a front of 2,600 yards, where the canal was dry, drove the enemy from SAINS and MARQUION and the trenches to the South and made good the left by seizing all the high ground to the NE. with HAYNECOURT, and the village and wood of BOURLON overlooking CAMBRAI. By nightfall the line was 16,000 yards long and four miles east of the canal. On the 28th the 3rd Div. joined in the fight, the MARCOING line was broken, FONTAINE, RAILLENCOURT and SAILLY were taken. The attack persisted on the 29th and 30th, and on 1st Oct. the line advanced beyond NEUVILLE ST. REMY, TIELOY and SANCOURT, but the enemy, driven despairing from his last prepared defences, threw in his last reserves and checked the advance at CUVILLERS and BANTIGNY. Casualties numbered 13,672, 7,059 prisoners and 205 guns were taken.

CAMBRAI 1918

To continue, unrested and depleted, was to invite failure, the Cdn. Corps stood fast until 9th Oct. then, before daybreak, the 2nd Cdn. Div. rushed the bridges of the SCHELDT Canal east of CAMBRAI, the 3rd cleared the town. The Cdn. Cav. Bde. pursued to LE CATEAU. The 2nd Cdn. Div. turning NE advanced 5 miles and took IWUY on 11th Oct.

PURSUIT TO MONS

To force a decision before winter, the British Armies continued to attack. The Cdn. Corps changed position on 11th Oct. to sweep eastwards on a 10 mile front, south of DOUAL, the 1st Cdn. Div. crossed the Canal de la SENSEE and the fertile plain beyond, abreast on the right the 4th took DENAIN on the 19th and by capturing MONT HOUY after a brisk fight on 1st Nov. secured VALENCIENNES, the 3rd, relieving the 1st, cleared the FORET DE RAISMES and crossed the flooded areas bordering on the SCHELDT. Astride the long road to GERMANY, the Corps followed hard for another 20 miles and, on the 9th, reached MONS. Next day, before midnight, the 3rd Cdn. Div. forced an entry, the 2nd seized the commanding heights to the South East and when the Armistice supervened, at 11am. 11th November the line was five miles North East of the town, beyond BOUSSOIT, LA BRUYERE and ST. DENIS, by CASTEAU where British and German troops first exchanged shots in Aug. 1914. Thus ended the fighting in FRANCE and FLANDERS.

THE RHINE

The Cdn. Corps, with the 1st and 2nd Cdn. Divs. was chosen to be part of the army of occupation; these marched out on 18th Nov. and advanced 150 miles in 25 days, by WATERLOO, NAMUR, HUY and SPA, over the swollen MEUSE and onwards through the cold rugged ARDENNES, into GERMANY, to cross by the bridges at BONN and COLOGNE. To cover the bridgehead, they took up a defensive position beyond SIEGBURG and SEELSCHIED. The 3rd and 4th Cdn. Divs. remained for the winter in garrison at MONS, BRUSSELS and Tournai.

EASTERN THEATRES

The Overseas Military Forces also took part in subsidiary enterprises.

MEDITERRANEAN

Two stationary hospitals sailed for LEMNOS in Aug. 1915 to care for patients from GALLIPOLI, a third opened in CAIRO, by April 1916 two had moved to serve the Western Front, the other to SALONIKA where a general hospital also operated.

N.W. PERSIA

A detachment from the Cdn. Corps was in the DUNSTERFORCE, a mission sent in Jan. 1918 to the area between BAGHDAD and BAKU on the CASPIAN Sea.

PALESTINE

In the pursuit through SYRIA in Sept. and Oct. 1918, a Cdn. bridging coy. worked on the railway by the Sea of GALILEE.

RUSSIA

For the winter campaign, 1918-1919, and in the advance through LAPLAND to Lake ONEGA a force of 120 volunteers from the Cdn. Corps was in the SYREN Party, operating southerly from MURMANSK.

A Cdn. field arty. brigade, 497 strong, landed at ARCHANGEL on 1st Oct. 1918, and joined the ELOPE Party in the defensive on the DVINA and the WHITE SEA coast.

To aid friendly Russians in SIBERIA a Cdn. expeditionary force 4,186 strong, sailed in December 1918 from VICTORIA to VLADIVOSTOCK and with other allied troops kept order there and along the railway to OMSK, 3,000 miles West.

By June 1919 all Canadians had been withdrawn from these distant fronts.

NUMBERS

In 1914, the population of Canada was 7,704,007. The Navy numbered 352, the Militia 75,361, of whom 57,318 were trained.

NAVY

During the war 5,826 served in the RCN and R.N.C.V.R. many others were employed in the R.N.V.R. and with the Imperial fleets. H.M.C.S. RAINBOW patrolled in the PACIFIC H.M.C.S. NIOBE in the ATLANTIC, 51 trawlers 56 drifters and 16 armed auxiliaries were engaged in mine sweeping, patrolling, conveying, and examination of shipping.

ARMY

Before the end 619,636 were enrolled 424,589 left Canada in the CEF, those were distributed overseas: in the cavalry 7268, in the artillery 37,744, engineers 29,259, signal corps 4,391, in the infantry 235,604, cyclists 1138, with machine guns 16,315, in tanks 1812, in the railway troops 22801, and forestry 22,905, labour 5,533, army service corps 14,030, medical 15,929, and nurses 2411, dental 882, ordnance 12,501, veterinary 14,791, postal corps 352, military police 227, army pay corps 1541, army gymnastic staff 391, chaplain services 442, YM.C.A. 893.

AIR SERVICES

From the CEF in the field 3960 went to the Royal Naval Air Service, Royal Flying Corps and Royal Air Force, in England 1389 other Canadians joined. In Canada 10,010 cadets and 7453 mechanics were recruited directly into the British air services, 4,280 of the former proceeded overseas.

Many other Canadians, of whom 371 were ex-cadets of the R.M.C. Kingston, served in the British, Allied, and Associated armies.

HOMECOMING

The Cdn. Corps withdrew, in Jan. 1919, to Belgium, where stores, vehicles and horses were turned in or disposed of preparatory to sending the troops back to Canada. They crossed to England and sailed from LIVERPOOL and SOUTHAMPTON to HALIFAX SAINT JOHN, QUEBEC, and MONTREAL thence by railway to CHARLOTTETOWN MONCTON, OTTAWA, KINGSTON, TORONTO, HAMILTON and LONDON, PORT ARTHUR WINNIPEG, BRANDON, REGINA, SASKATOON MEDICINE HAT, EDMONTON, CALGARY VANCOUVER and VICTORIA. The units were disbanded at these dispersal centres, the soldiers, discharged, turned again to civil occupations and to the comforts of home.

Of those who did not return, 51,715 were killed in action or died of their wounds. The total of battle casualties was 190,092, in the Royal Cdn. Navy 24; the cavalry 1971 artillery 9984, engineers 6247, and signal corps 933, the infantry 160,224, cyclists 261 machine gun corps 5777, railway troops 16,444 forestry 62, labour 579, army service corps 535 medical 1727, nurses 29, police 5, pay corps 12 gymnastic staff 2, chaplains 30, YM.C.A. 4.

THE END OF THE WAR

The Treaty of Peace with Germany was signed at VERSAILLES on the 28th day of June 1919.

SIX HUNDRED AND TWENTY EIGHT THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED AND SIXTY TWO BORE THE BADGE OF CANADA IN THE GREAT WAR SIXTY THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND SIXTY ONE MET DEATH AND PASSED ON.

